

Monthly Gas Utility Statistical Report

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March 1987

Residential and electric generation sales increased while commercial and industrial sales decreased in March, 1987 compared with last year. Total utility sales were down from 1202.3 trillion Btu in March, 1986 to 1142.2 trillion Btu in March, 1987. Transportation volumes to end-users were up 92.9 percent compared with last year.

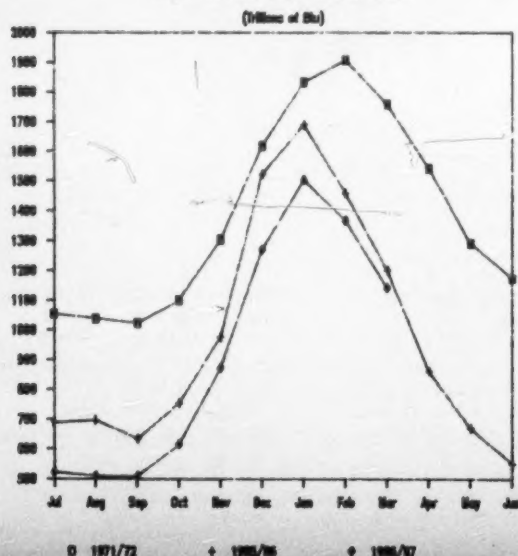
GAS UTILITY VOLUMES TO ULTIMATE CONSUMERS (Trillions of Btu)

	March			Heating Season (Nov-Mar)		January 1 to December 31		
	1987	1986	% Change ¹	Nov-Mar	(% Change) Last Period	1987 Forecast ²	1986 ^P	% Change
Residential	576.0	566.4	+ 1.7	3,068.7	- 0.7	4,461.3	4,410.0	+ 1.2
Commercial	269.5	276.1	- 2.4	1,448.1	- 4.2	2,274.3	2,246.8	+ 1.2
Industrial	186.7	287.6	- 35.1	1,078.1	- 34.2	2,411.6	2,726.8	- 11.6
Elec. Gen.	97.2	58.6	+ 65.8	495.5	- 14.0	1,264.0	1,216.8	+ 3.9
Other	12.8	13.6	-	72.9	-	127.9	119.8	-
Total Sales	1,142.2	1,202.3	- 5.0	6,163.3	- 10.6	10,539.1	10,720.2	- 1.7
Transportation	259.9	134.7	+ 92.9	1,149.0	+ 66.7			
Total Volumes	1,402.1	1,337.0	+ 4.9	7,312.3	- 3.6			
Degree Days*	579	549	+ 5.5	3,624	- 2.8			

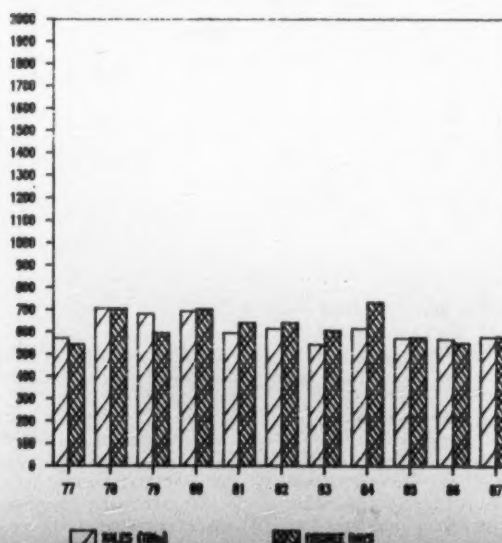
*Source: NOAA (Weighted by Gas Homeheating Customers - Normal for March is 657).

Gas volumes are based on a sample of 69 companies whose sales constitute about 65 percent of the total gas utility sales to ultimate consumers. The peak year in total sales for the gas utility industry occurred in 1972.

TOTAL MONTHLY GAS UTILITY SALES



MARCH RESIDENTIAL GAS UTILITY SALES



RESIDENTIAL APPLIANCE SHIPMENTS - MARCH

(Thousands of Units)

	1987	1986	% Change '86 vs '87
Domestic Ranges			
Gas	183.5	163.8	+ 12.0
Electric	279.1	240.0	+ 16.3
Clothes Dryers			
Gas	90.7	69.1	+ 31.3
Electric	299.3	244.9	+ 22.2
Water Heaters			
Gas	351.9	342.9	+ 2.6
Electric	301.3	306.4	- 1.7
Warm Air Furnaces			
Gas	148.8	159.8	- 6.9
Electric	39.0	33.1	+ 17.8
Oil	11.8	9.7	+ 22.5
Boilers			
Gas	11.7	9.0	+ 30.0
Electric	0.1	0.1	- 48.7
Oil	9.3	7.6	+ 21.8

Source: Gas Appliance Manufacturers Association (GAMA)

ECONOMIC INDICATORS - MARCH

	1987	1986	% Change '86 vs '87
Total Actual Private Housing Starts (Thous. of units)	137.3	143.8	- 4.5
Consumer Price Index (All urban, unadjusted, 1967 = 100)			
Gas (utility pipe gas)	522.4	553.5	- 5.6
Electricity	356.7	362.2	- 1.5
Fuel Oil	496.8	543.5	- 8.6
Source: Department of Commerce, Bureau of Labor Statistics			
Index Total Gas Sales (1972 = 100)	65.0	68.4	- 5.0
Gas Utility Prices (\$/MMBtu)			
Residential	5.22	5.57	- 6.3
Commercial	4.75	5.20	- 8.7
Industrial	3.65	3.94	- 7.4
Electric Generation	2.51	2.72	- 7.5
Total	4.61	4.94	- 6.8
Carriage Volumes ³ (Trillions of Btu)			
To Ultimate Consumers	259.9	134.7	+ 92.9
For Ultimate Consumers	60.3	41.2	+ 46.4
For Resale	559.6	321.7	+ 74.0
Total	879.8	497.6	+ 76.8

Source: A.G.A.

AVERAGE GAS UTILITY PRICES FOR THE 12 MONTH PERIOD ENDING (\$/MMBtu)

Year	Month	Total	Res.	Comm.	Ind. Only	Elec. Gen.	Other
1978	Dec.	2.184	2.534	2.279	1.940	1.721	1.788
1979	Dec.	2.522	2.918	2.665	2.261	2.120	1.937
1980	Dec.	3.134	3.612	3.336	3.184	2.651	2.667
1981	Dec.	3.650	4.161	3.909	3.311	3.241	3.458
1982	Dec.	4.456	4.969	4.721	3.969	4.090	4.303
1983	Dec.	5.120	5.882	5.508	4.486	4.198	4.921
1984	Dec.	5.128	5.938	5.511	4.410	4.222	4.869
1985	Dec.	5.017	5.953	5.441	4.248	3.812	4.791
1986 ^P	Mar.	4.913	5.834	5.319	4.133	3.694	4.701
	Apr.	4.889	5.819	5.292	4.091	3.629	4.682
	May	4.865	5.800	5.272	4.053	3.553	4.656
	Jun.	4.839	5.788	5.253	4.015	3.434	4.637
	Jul.	4.821	5.783	5.238	3.977	3.298	4.614
	Aug.	4.807	5.778	5.220	3.936	3.155	4.603
	Sep.	4.791	5.772	5.205	3.896	3.030	4.591
	Oct.	4.775	5.767	5.188	3.848	2.896	4.548
	Nov.	4.750	5.731	5.145	3.797	2.765	4.496
	Dec.	4.703	5.685	5.085	3.742	2.632	4.386
1987 ^P	Jan. ^R	4.643	5.634	5.018	3.665	2.523	4.320
	Feb. ^R	4.595	5.580	4.940	3.614	2.505	4.210
	Mar.	4.556	5.535	4.884	3.578	2.496	4.157

AVERAGE MONTHLY GAS UTILITY PRICES (\$/MMBtu)

Year	Month	Total	Res.	Comm.	Ind. & Elec.	Ind. Only	Elec. Only
1985	Mar.	5.20	5.84	5.51	4.27	4.40	3.91
	Apr.	5.09	5.89	5.54	4.23	4.32	4.00
	May	4.97	6.39	5.55	4.08	4.19	3.85
	Jun.	4.86	6.74	5.58	4.04	4.16	3.84
	Jul.	4.73	6.95	5.53	3.99	4.13	3.83
	Aug.	4.64	7.02	5.43	3.93	4.14	3.72
	Sep.	4.74	6.93	5.40	3.94	4.12	3.71
	Oct.	4.82	6.39	5.35	3.98	4.13	3.73
	Nov.	4.95	6.03	5.34	4.02	4.18	3.71
	Dec.	4.97	5.54	5.24	4.02	4.14	3.71
1986 ^P	Jan. ^R	4.97	5.45	5.19	3.98	4.14	3.49
	Feb. ^R	4.95	5.50	5.23	3.82	4.01	3.12
	Mar.	4.94	5.57	5.20	3.73	3.94	2.72
	Apr.	4.79	5.70	5.20	3.50	3.77	2.47
	May	4.56	5.98	5.18	3.27	3.59	2.62
	Jun.	4.32	6.39	5.12	3.05	3.53	2.36
	Jul.	4.30	6.80	5.12	3.03	3.48	2.39
	Aug.	4.26	6.82	4.96	3.03	3.46	2.47
	Sep.	4.36	6.70	5.01	3.06	3.45	2.53
	Oct.	4.54	6.28	5.04	3.13	3.50	2.44
	Nov.	4.67	5.59	4.84	3.29	3.62	2.47
	Dec.	4.62	5.21	4.79	3.33	3.69	2.57
1987 ^P	Jan. ^R	4.58	5.15	4.78	3.15	3.50	2.34
	Feb. ^R	4.61	5.17	4.72	3.34	3.60	2.81
	Mar.	4.61	5.22	4.75	3.26	3.65	2.51

Editor - Susan Brown (703/841-8503)

¹The percent change is a function of the 69 sample companies.

²1987 forecasts for the residential and commercial sectors are based on available 1987 monthly data with the remaining months derived by using a four year average. The industrial sector forecast (both industrial only and electric generation) is also based on available 1987 monthly data with the remaining months of 1987 heavily weighted by last years sales with no adjustment made for degree days.

³Carriage volumes determined by using a simple straight expansion of sample data to represent the total gas utility industry. Carriage volumes for ultimate consumers are volumes owned by the ultimate consumer but delivered to another transporter, not the ultimate consumer, and are therefore broken out to eliminate double counting of volumes delivered to ultimate consumers.

P-Preliminary.